

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 16 through line 27, with the following rewritten paragraph:

As shown in FIGS. 10(a) and 10(b), a honeycomb structure includes a plurality of cells 3 surrounded by partition walls 2 and extending through an axial direction, and has broadly been used as a catalyst substrate, filter, or the like. Depending on cases, especially in a case where the honeycomb structure is used as a filter, the honeycomb structure is used in the form of a honeycomb plugged structure in which some cells 3a are plugged by plug portions 4 as shown in FIGS. 11(a) to 11(c). These plug portions have heretofore been formed by charging ceramic slurry into desired cells and drying and/or firing the slurry (see ~~JP-A-63-24731~~). JP-B-63-24731).